

## Step by Step - Section 39

*“But every true Apostle or prophet who wants to live with you or in your community is worthy of his support. The teachings of the true Apostle or prophet shall be their labour if they have no specific skill. Likewise, a true teacher is himself worthy, as the workman, of his support.”*

In this section we discuss the welfare of the Apostle or Prophet who seeks to make a home in your local community. We are expected to:

**\*Support the True Apostle, Prophet or Rabbi who wants to live with you or your community because they are worthy of your support.**

This is because, for their primary skill or job is as an Apostle, Prophet or Rabbi. They are in your community as servants of God, not wayfarers who happen to be believers. They are there to serve you and your local community.

As the text says the teachings of the true Apostle, the Prophet or Rabbi is their labour. This does not mean an Apostle, Prophet or Rabbi cannot offer to help out in the local community if they have another set of skills but, that it is not required of them because being an Apostle, Prophet or Rabbi is their primary skill.

In today's world, clerics or Rabbis are often funded by local church congregations or synagogues by a central religious body. But the instruction does not speak on supporting clerics. An Apostle (Shalyakh) is a distinct category as is the category of a prophet (Nabi) and also the Religious Teacher (Rabbi).

The community that requires religious servants to serve their needs and is in need of them regularly, should come together and determine if providing for the needs of a servant of God isn't the wiser choice than expecting them to be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week but not willing to make sure that servant can afford to live to serve them.

This is a decision of consensus and logic based on need, not based on what God directs. The instruction regarding Apostles and prophets, on the other hand, is a divinely sanctioned decree.

Servants in the local community, for the most part, are comprised of people from the local community. They are fulfilling their parts to make sure the local religious community works properly.

An Apostle or Prophet are called to a different standard, are expected to pick up and leave and serve wherever they are called even if that calling ends with their physical existence. They are not citizens of a local community but servants of the Kingdom, called to serve wherever God needs them to be. It may be in one local community today, it may be a region far away tomorrow. It may be a place inundated with people one day, it may be as a lone hermit the next. God calls them and they serve wherever needed.

The Rabbi devotes their life to the study of the Torah of Mosha sealed in the Blood of the Lamb (This is crucial! It cannot be any Torah sage, especially one who denies the Yeshua haMashiakh or the Essene Way of Life. Nor can it be any Christian religious teacher who does not honor Torah and the Essene way of Life, but an actual Essene Rabbi). If it were not for the Essene Rabbi, the Gentile believers would not hear the Torah each week and learn to become Children of Abraham. Their value to the local community, on all levels, can never be overestimated.

If God allows for the Apostle or Prophet to stay in the company of believers for a time, it is a blessing for them as well as for that community.

So the idea of True Apostles, Prophets and Rabbis trying to live off the hard work of local believers is erroneous.

**What to take from this:** If a True Apostle, Prophet or the Rabbi devoted to Yeshua and the Essene way of life, enters my community, I will do my part to support them for their service to God is also a service to me and my brothers and sisters.

**Practice:** Look at the institutions that call for funding for its clergy or its Rabbis. Does the local community come together to determine a liveable wage or is this set by other individuals or groups? Examine the offices of the Assembly, are people paid for doing nothing? Or are people not paid when they offer valuable service? The Apostolic faith requires that everyone do their part: those who work in the fields, merchants, clergy, Rabbis as well as Apostles and Prophets. There is never a time when one part of the religious community is living off the other part. Everyone in the believers community is active in their service to the Lord, no matter what it is that they do. If you look to your local religious community, is this so? And if not, why not?